

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the amendments above and the remarks/arguments which follow:

Disposition of the Claims

Claims 9-15 and 26-31 are pending in this application. The Examiner has indicated that claims 9-15 are allowable. Claims 1-8 and 16-25 have been cancelled. Claims 26-31 have been added.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 20-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Kurtz et al. (U.S. Patent 6,532,111). Claims 20-24 have been cancelled. Accordingly, rejection of these claims is moot.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claim 25 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Kurtz et al. in view of Siroki (U.S. Patent 5,757,538). Claim 25 has been cancelled. Accordingly, rejection of this claim is moot.

Claims 16-19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Siroki in view of Moshrefzadeh et al. (U.S. Patent 6,391,528) and Kurtz et al. Claims 16-19 have been cancelled. Accordingly, rejection of these claims is moot.

New Claims

Newly added claims 26-31 are directed to fabrication of an integrated optical isolator. The claims recite forming wire grid polarizers on both surfaces of a magneto-optical garnet substrate using the method recited in allowable claim 9. Therefore, these claims should be allowable over the prior art. No new matter has been added.

Conclusion

The rejected claims have been amended and/or shown to be allowable over the prior art. Applicants believe that this paper is fully responsive to each and every ground of rejection cited by the Examiner in the Office Action dated September 3, 2003, and respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Please apply any charges in connection with filing of this response or any credits to Deposit Account No. 03-3325 (ref. SP01-087).

Respectfully submitted,

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Adenike Adewuya
Adenike A. Adewuya
Reg. No. 42,254
(281) 477-3450

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